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## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of the claims in the application:

## **LISTING OF THE CLAIMS:**

Claim 1: (amended) A method of detecting at least one low molecular weight protein and/or peptide component in a biological fluid comprising:

- a) fractionating proteins or peptides in said biological fluid by molecular weight to produce a fractionated protein or peptide sample;
- b) separating a first fraction from said fractionated proteined protein or peptide sample, said first fraction having substantially all proteins or peptides with a molecular weight above greater than about 3 kDa and below the filtration limits of a normal kidney found in the biological fluid;
- c) recovering said first fraction having <u>substantially all</u> proteins or peptides with a molecular weight <del>above greater than</del> about 3kDa and below the filtration limits of a normal kidney <u>found in the biological fluid</u>, and
- d) determining the proteins or peptides present in said first fraction.

## Claim 2: canceled

Claim 3: (original) The method of claim 1, wherein said biological fluid is selected from the group consisting of urine, blood, tissue cytosol or other fluid, cerebral spinal fluid, sputum, feces and sweat.

Claim 4: (original) The method of claim 1, wherein said biological fluid is urine.

Claim 5: (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said fractionating step comprises separation of low molecular weight constituents by size exclusion chromatography.



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Claim 6: (original) The method of claim 5, wherein said separation comprises sequential chromatography by separate stationary phases comprising different mesh sizes.

Claim 7: (original) The method of claim 1, wherein said concentrating step comprises addition of at least one protease inhibitor to the body fluid upon collection.

Claim 8: (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said fractionating step comprises a hydrodynamic step.

Claim 9: (original) The method of claim 8, wherein said hydrodynamic step is centrifugation.

Claim 10: (previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising fractionating said first fraction by elution from a reverse phase stationary phase.

Claim 11: (original) The method of claim 10 wherein said reverse phase is a non-porous C18 material.

Claim 12: (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said first fraction is further fractionated by elution from an affinity column.

Claim 13: (amended) The method of claim 12, wherein said affinity column comprises monoclonal, polyclonal, recombinant, microorganism display antibodies, or fragments thereof.

Claim 14: (previously presented) The method of claim 13, wherein said monoclonal and/or polyclonal antibodies are directed to target proteins selected from the group consisting of albumin, transferrin,  $\alpha_1$  antitrypsin,  $\alpha_2$  macroglobulin,  $\alpha_1$  acid glycoprotein, C3,



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Tamm-Horsfall protein, hemopexin,  $\alpha_2$ HS glycoprotein,  $\alpha_1$  antichymotrypsin, Gc globulin and ceruloplasmin.

Claim 15: (previously presented) The method of claim 13, wherein said affinity column is a non-immunologic entity comprising matrix.

Claim 16: (previously presented) The method of claim 15, wherein said non-immunologic entity is selected from the group consisting of protein A, protein G, haptoglobin, arginine, benzamidine, glutathione, Cibachron blue, calmodulin, gelatin, heparin, lysine, lectins, Procion Red HE-3B, nucleic acids and metal affinity media.

Claim 17: (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said first fraction is further fractionated by electrophoresis.

Claim 18: (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said first fraction is further fractionated by zonal sedimentation centrifugation on density gradients.

Claim 19: (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said determining step comprises identifying said proteins or peptides by mass spectrometry or liquid chromatography.

20-24. Canceled

Claim 25: (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said first fraction comprises native proteins.

Claim 26: (amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said <u>fraction has an upper limit of greater than filtration limits of a normal kidney is</u> about 30,000 daltons.



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Claim 27: (amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising recovering a second fraction from said biological fluid having <u>substantially all</u> proteins with a molecular weight above said filtration limits of a normal kidney <u>found in said biological fluid</u> and determining the proteins in said second fraction.

Claim 28: (amended) The method of claim 27 wherein said <u>fraction has an upper limit of filtration limits of a normal kidney above greater than</u> about 30,000 daltons.

Claim 29: (amended) The method of claim 12 wherein said affinity column <u>contains plural</u> specific binding agents that bind to binds plural specific predetermined proteins.

Claim 30: (previously presented) The method of claim 1 wherein the biological fluid is plasma or serum.

Claim 31: (amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said fraction having <u>substantially all</u> proteins or peptides with a molecular weight <del>above greater than</del> about 3kDa and below the filtration limits of a normal kidney <u>found in said biological fluid</u> consists essentially of plasma proteins capable of being filtered by a normal kidney.

Claim 32: (amended) The first-A fraction of a biological sample produced by the process of claim 1 wherein said first fraction having proteins or peptides with a molecular weight above greater than about 3kDa and below the filtration limits of a normal kidney consists essentially of essentially all plasma proteins capable of being filtered by a normal kidney found in said biological fluid.

Claim 33: (previously presented) The fraction of claim 32 wherein the biological sample is urine.

Claim 34: (previously presented) The fraction of claim 32 wherein the biological sample is plasma or serum.



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Claim 35: (previously presented) The fraction of claim 32 wherein the biological sample is from a tissue.

Claim 36: (previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said biological fluid is not than urine.

Claim 37: (previously presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising generating an antibody against at least one of said proteins or peptides.

Claim 39. (previously presented) The method of claim 37 further comprising: contacting a test biological fluid with said antibody against at least one of said proteins or peptides and,

detecting the presence or absence of said antibody binding to said protein or peptide.

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